

A BRITISH M.P. WRITES US

A letter from William Gallacher

London.

THE American people are being dragged to the very brink of war. Whenever the interests of the "dollar" imperialists demand it they will be plunged into the maelstrom. All the time the imperialists of Britain, with their servile Labor lackeys, are trying to hurry on the process. Talk there is in plenty of freedom and democracy, but the war is a war for empire, for territory, markets, and profits unlimited.

For years the imperialist rulers of Britain worked for war. They destroyed whatever value the League of Nations might have had and wrecked every attempt to unify the forces in Europe that might have preserved peace. They wanted war—they worked for war—but not in the form in which it has come upon them. They gave Hitler every encouragement, every assistance, to build up a great army and a great air force, satisfied that when this was accomplished, he would advance against the Soviet Union with the full backing and support of his friends in Britain.

A well known American Catholic journalist, Captain McCullough, quoted in the Catholic press of this country, justified and defended Chamberlain's policy of driving the Nazis against the Soviet Union. It was a great idea. Only if Captain McCullough could see it, maybe also the leaders of the Soviet Union could see it. In fact, six months before the war, Stalin warned the British and French imperialists that their war policy would end in fiasco for themselves.

If Germany and Soviet Russia had gone to war, the British imperialists would have made a mint of money supplying Germany with arms (maybe some out-of-date torpedo boats), and then when the contestants were exhausted, would have waded in and settled how Europe and the East were to be divided up.

"Fiasco" as foretold by Stalin has attended their plans, and so instead of Britain supplying arms to Germany for a war of exhaustion against the Soviet Union, American imperialists are supplying arms to Britain in a war which means the destruction of Britain as a rival to American imperialism. But behind all this mad, monstrous orgy of destruction, there is ever-increasing hatred of the Soviet Union and the rapid advance of fascist methods for suppressing the working class.

The imperialists of Britain are not at war against Hitler because they abhor the brutalities of the Nazis, or because they object to fascism. Three months after the war started (December 1939) a pamphlet was published entitled "The British Case." It was written by Lord Lloyd, a member of the present government, and it had an introduction by none other than that "holy man of God," who occupied the position of Foreign Secretary and is now the new ambassador to the United States—Lord Halifax. After the usual slanders on the Soviet Union, we get on page 37 a touching tribute to the beauties of fascism, in the midst of which is the following gem:—

Above all, the Italian genius has developed, in the characteristic Fascist institution, a highly authoritarian regime which, however, threatens neither religious nor economic freedom, nor the security of other European nations.

Their dear old pal "Napolini" seems to have let them down. But not nearly so much as Hitler.

When the leaders of the Soviet Union, in order to break up

the combination that the British imperialists were trying to organize against it, signed the non-aggression pact with Germany, the Labor lackeys howled about the desertion of democracy, a practice at which they themselves have had long experience. But what have the imperialists to say about it? Did they see in it the "betrayal of democracy"? Far from it. On page 53 of "The British Case," we read:—

This was Herr Hitler's final apostasy. *It was the betrayal of Europe.*

Thus Europe, in their eyes, was to be an armed camp of capitalist states with all their power directed against the Soviet Union. But in order to avoid any doubt as to the actual war they wanted, they offer the extremely illuminating passage on page 55:—

In Herr Hitler's case the appearances of sincerity were not lacking over a period of years. . . . However abominable his methods, however deceitful his diplomacy, however intolerant he might show himself of the rights of other European peoples, he still claimed to stand ultimately for something which was common European interest, and which therefore could conceivably provide some day a basis for understanding with other nations equally determined not to sacrifice their traditional institutions and habits on the bloodstained altars of World Revolution.

Having failed to turn Hitler eastward, the war of clashing imperialists became inevitable.

Those of us who are fighting to bring the war to an end, to extricate the people from the horrors that decaying capitalism has brought upon them, see the way of peace through a People's Government that will arouse the people throughout Europe for a people's peace, a peace with no annexations and no indemnities. A peace that will give freedom to the people everywhere. Such a government would speak in a language that the people of Europe would understand. It would give freedom to India and all oppressed colonial peoples. It would open the prison gates and liberate Nehru and the hundreds of Indians who are the victims of imperialist oppression. It would take over the land and the wealth of the country and use it to advance the welfare of the masses of the people. This is the only language the people of Europe will understand and appreciate.

The American people can play a great part in shaping history and progress by leading the fight for peace, by defeating the plans of the millionaire imperialists, and striving for friendship and understanding with the mighty Soviet Union. Such a combination of forces working together would be of immeasurable value to those in Britain and the continent who are working for peace. The American people have a great responsibility. The imperialists and their Labor lackeys, titled and untitled, endeavor to create all kinds of illusions. Let the American people look not to these enemies of the people, but to the true friends of all that is best and noblest in the traditions of America—let them look to the Communist Party of America whose courageous fight and wise guidance has continually pointed the true path for the American people.

Cooperation for peace and freedom for all oppressed peoples, that is the service you in America can give to the people of Europe and Asia.

WILLIAM GALLACHER.